Electrochomoeopathy System taking into consideration the communication from the former Dy. Minister of Health and F. W. and of the Expert Committee. In compliance with the directions, the Union Health Secretery passed a reasoned order which concluded that it was not possible to recognise the system of medicine in view of its basis infirmities. Government is not aware of the operation of any stay order.

(c) Does not arise.

Pending Cases Seeking Exemption on Imported Equipment

1145. DR. YELAMANCHELI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications pending seeking exemption of duty for imported equipment/apparatus by the clinical laboratories and medical practitioners;

(b) since when they are pending; and

(c) what are the reasons for undue delay in processing more applications ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) The procedure for grant of import duty exemption for hospital equipment was being reviewed so as to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the relevant notifications. The cases pending from February. 1993 are now being processed expeditiously.

Purchase of Additional Equipment of Cobalt Unit for Government Medical College at Aurangabad

1146. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra have requested the Government of India to sanction an amount of Rs. 169.06 lakhs for the purchase of additional equipment of Cobalt Unit for Government Medical College at Aurangabad, and

(b) if so, by when the necessary sanction is likely to be accorded ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The State Government was informed that it had not been found possible to take up the Medical College Hospital, Aurangabad under the scheme for development of Oncology Wings.

W. H. O. Report on Health Facilitities in India

1147. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the World Bank funded W. H. O. report wherein it is mantioned that though India spend U. S. $ 18 billion on health care and China Spends U. S. $ 13 billion, the health facility of China is better than India;

(b) whethar Government have conducted any study/enquiry to whether the funds are misused/diverted; and

(c) what action Government contemplate in view of this report to improve the health facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The Government is not aware of any such report. However, in World Bank's World Development Report 1993 it has been indicated that the total health expenditure in India and China is $ 18 billion and $ 13 billion respectively. The health outcomes are dependent on many factors other than the total expenditure on health. The level of public sector investment in health, extent of poverty, nutrition, education, sanitation and drinking water supply are equally important. Hence a comparison based on total health expenditure can not be made.

(b) Government has not conducted any study/enquiry in this regard. However, Government is closely monitoring the utilisation of health outlays.

(c) Government continously reviews the health facilities and takes appropriate action in consultation with the States.

Increasing Number of Medical Colleges in the Country

1148. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is having maximum number of medical colleges as compared to the other countries and their number is still increasing;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the increase of medical colleges the standard of medical education in colleges is going down and Indian doctors have to pass certain examination when they go to other countries; if

so, what step Government are taking to check this alarming situation which ultimately affects the health of the country; and

(c) whether it is a fact that large number of doctors are going out of the country for better jobs as compared to any other country; if so, what steps Government are proposing to check this exodus when the country is still short of the qualified doctors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No such comparative figures are available.

(b) Indian doctors have to undergo examination for higher studies in foreign countries where reciprocal recognition of degrees does not exist. This is no indication of the standards of the medical colleges as Medical Council of India recognises only those medical colleges which meet the minimum requirements laid down by the Council.

(c) According to information available with the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence there were 5,887 Indian doctors registered in various foreign countries upto 31-12-91; the number of doctors registered with the Medical Council of India is 4.29 lakhs. The policy of the Govt. is not to permit imigration of doctors except to developing countries.

Aids Cases

1149. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in Hindustan Times dated 24th May, 1993 stating that despite being a slow started Government except 208 AIDS cases by 1993 end;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to control this dreaded disease; and

(c) the amount spent by Government during the financial year ended on 31-3-93 to control this?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir. As against this projection, the total number of reported cases of AIDS in Delhi is 34 as on 30th June, 1993.

(b) The strategies evolved to control the spread of HIV infection/AIDS consist of:—

(i) Generation of awareness among the public especially the high risk behaviour groups for safe sex;

(ii) promotion of blood safety and rational use of blood;

(iii) Prevention and Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases;

(iv) Promotion of condom use for prevention of STD/HIV; and

(v) Better Clinical Management of AIDS cases;

(c) An amount of Rs. 30.89 crores was released by the Government during the year 1992-93 to control this disease.

HIV Case Detected in Assam

1150. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any HIV positive case has so far been detected at the Assam Medical College and Guwahati Medical College in Assam; and

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to prevent the spread of such dreaded disease in the region?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) so far only 4 HIV positive cases have been reported from Assam, by Guwahati Medical College.

(b) The Strategies evolved to control the spread of HIV infection/AIDS consist of:—

(i) Generation of awareness among the public especially the high risk behaviour groups for safe sex;

(ii) Promotion of blood safety and rational use of blood;

(iii) Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases;

(iv) Better Clinical Management of AIDS cases; and

(v) Promotion of Condom use for prevention of STD/HIV;

(vi) Collaboration with Non-Governmental Organisations in specific prevention programmes to control and contain intravenous drug use.

Functioning of the National Medical Library in Delhi

1151. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: